

## Message Text

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ORIGIN LAB-04

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APPROVED BY STATE/EUR:DGOOTT  
LABOR:JMARK  
LABOR:HBLACKMAN  
STATE:EUR/RPE:JPMC CLEAN (SUBS)  
STATE:EUR/WE:MCRAMERUS (SUBS)  
-----118836 221827Z /46  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, FR

SUBJECT: COMPENSATION COSTS IN RAYON STAPLE FIBER INDUSTRY

INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS BUREAU (ILAB) OF THE DEPARTMENT  
OF LABOR REQUESTS EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING INFORMA-  
TION ON COMPENSATION COSTS FOR PRODUCTION WORKERS IN THE  
RAYON STAPLE FIBER INDUSTRY FOR USE IN CONNECTION WITH AN  
ANTI-DUMPING CASE.

ILAB HAS OBTAINED FROM THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS)  
DATA ON ESTIMATED HOURLY COMPENSATION OF PRODUCTION WORKERS  
IN THE TOTAL SYNTHETIC FIBER INDUSTRY FOR FRANCE. HOWEVER,  
DATA ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR RAYON STAPLE FIBER WORKERS FROM  
THE SOURCES USED BY BLS.

BLS ESTIMATES THAT TOTAL COMPENSATION PER HOUR WORKED OF  
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PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SYNTHETIC FIBER INDUSTRIES IN FRANCE  
WAS 30.71 FRANCS IN APRIL 1977. TOTAL HOURLY COMPENSATION  
INCLUDES ALL DIRECT PAYMENTS MADE TO THE WORKER (PAY FOR  
TIME WORKED, PAY FOR VACATIONS, HOLIDAYS, AND OTHER LEAVE,  
ALL BONUSES, AND PAY IN KIND) BEFORE PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS OF  
ANY KIND, PLUS EMPLOYER EXPENDITURES FOR LEGALLY-REQUIRED  
INSURANCE PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTUAL AND PRIVATE PLANS FOR

THE BENEFIT OF EMPLOYEES. THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON AVERAGE

HOURLY EARNINGS OF 16.59 FRANCS AND AN 85.1 PERCENT ADJUSTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION NOT INCLUDED IN PUBLISHED EARNINGS. THE AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS ARE FROM THE APRIL AND OCTOBER SURVEY OF EARNINGS CONDUCTED BY THE SERVICE DES ETUDES ET DE LA STATISTIQUE OF THE MINISTERE DU TRAVAIL. BLS MAKES PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES OF AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS FOR PERIODS SINCE THE LATEST PUBLISHED DATA (OCTOBER 1976) BY UPDATING THE EARNINGS ACCORDING TO THE TREND IN THE QUARTERLY INDEX OF HOURLY WAGE RATES, ALSO COMPILED BY THE MINISTRY. THE RATIOS OF ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION TO PUBLISHED EARNINGS ARE BASED ON DATA FROM THE 1972 SURVEY OF LABOR COSTS IN INDUSTRY CONDUCTED BY THE INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA STATISTIQUE ET DES ETUDES ECONOMIQUES (INSEE) FOR THE STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT). THE RATIOS ARE UPDATED FROM 1972 USING THE TREND IN AVERAGE HOLIDAYS AND VACATIONS IN ALL INDUSTRY AND CHANGES IN EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR LEGALLY-REQUIRED SOCIAL INSURANCE.

ILAB WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING ANY INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO IMPROVE THE BLS ESTIMATES--PARTICULARLY TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COST OR BASIC WAGE DATA IN NATIONAL CURRENCY FOR RAYON STAPLE FIBER WORKERS--FROM UNPUBLISHED WAGE SURVEY STATISTICS,  
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MANUFACTURERS' REPORTS, OR OTHER SOURCES. ILAB WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE EMPLOYMENT COSTS FOR SKILLED CHEMICAL ENGINEERS IN THE RAYON STAPLE FIBER OR TOTAL SYNTHETIC FIBER INDUSTRY. ILAB WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY REPLY. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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